INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

AFFILIATED WITH:
CHOICE Building Trades Council — AFL-CIO
Baltimore Port Council
Baltimore Metro Council — AFL-CIO
Central MD Labor Council — AFL-CIO
Del-Mar-Va Labor Council — AFL-CIO



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Written Testimony of

Peter Demchuk, Business Manager, IBEW LOCAL 24

Before the

House Economic Matters Committee On

HB 64 - - Labor and Employment-Occupational Safety and Health-

Handwashing Facilities on Construction Sites

Strongly Support

January 26, 2021

Dear Chairman Davis and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my written testimony supporting House Bill 64.

For the record, my name is Peter Demchuk. I am a 41- year member, and the Business Manager, of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 24 located in Baltimore. I represent approximately 2,000 hardworking, Maryland tax paying electricians. I am a lifelong resident of Maryland and reside in District 7 of Baltimore County.

I thank Delegate Henson for bring forth this very important bill for the members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. This has been a problem on construction sites for years and exasperated during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Can you imagine using the "rest room" and not being able to wash your hands, you scorn people you see that "bypass" the sink after using the "facilities". COVID-19 has compound the problem of good sanitation, wear your mask, maintain "social distance" and wash your hands has been the message preached by the Centers for Infectious Disease. That would be possible if there was a place for construction workers to wash their hands!

Electrical workers have been classified as "essential personnel" during this pandemic, they are working hard building hospitals, water plants that purify our drinking water, and facilities that treat our waste water, shouldn't they have the ability to do that safely! Would you want sit down at lunch time, break open your lunch box that your spouse prepared with dirty hands?

I ask you to vote favorably on HB 64, for the health and safety of construction workers and their families.

Thank you,

Peter P. Demchuk

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